for making them regular; if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, ATOMIC ENERGY, SPACE, ELECTRONICS AND OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) No skilled/unskilled casual worker has been engaged by the Publications and Information Directorate (PID) during the last three years. However, six skilled and six unskilled workers who were engaged on contract basis have been selected against regular posts in open recruitment during the last 3 years as indicated below:—

Year	Skilled	Unskilled
1981-82 . .	2	..
1982-83 . .	3	5
1983-84 . .	1	1

(b) and (c) There are one skilled and four unskilled workers engaged on contract basis in the P.I.D. who have put in three years or more. They can be considered against vacancies when they arise.

1730. [*Transferred to the 17th August, 1984*].

Production of electronic goods in the Small Scale Sector

1731. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Administration has asked the Central Government for producing all sophisticated electronic goods in the small scale sector;

(b) whether the Delhi Administration has sought permission for setting up of new industries for manufacturing colour television, V.C.Rs. and electronic items for medical, educational, industrial and aviation purposes; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken or proposed to take in this matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Prices of Computers

1732. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to bring down the prices of computers in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) to what extent the prices are proposed to be reduced;

(d) the number of firms engaged in the manufacture of computers at present; and

(e) what steps are proposed to be taken to speed up the manufacture of computers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b) Several measures have been taken by Government over the last two years to bring down the input and other costs of production of computers by our computer manufacturers. These have included: reducing the customs duty on imported capital goods (under project import) from 60 per cent to a flat 25 per cent; reducing customs duties on imported components from levels of 81—158 per cent to a flat 75 per cent, reducing the unit costs of com-